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TRANSMITTAL OF APPEAL BRIEF (Large Entity)

Docket No.
EN999116

In Re Application Of: **Barnard et al.**

Application No.	Filing Date	Examiner	Customer No.	Group Art Unit	Confirmation No.
09/444,254	11/22/1999	Gort, Elaine L.	30449	3627	

Invention: **SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PROJECT PREPARING A PROCUREMENT AND ACCOUNTS PAYABLE SYSTEM**

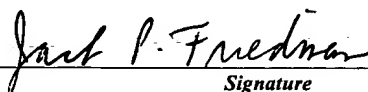
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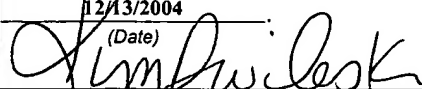
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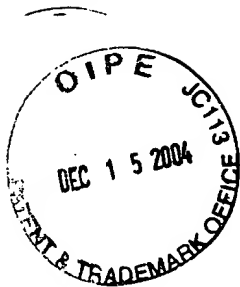


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Barnard *et al.*

Examiner: Gort, Elaine L.

Serial No.: 09/444,254

Art Unit: 3627

Filed: 11/22/1999

Dkt. No.: EN999116

**For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PROJECT PREPARING A PROCUREMENT AND
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE SYSTEM**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

BRIEF OF APPELLANTS

This Appeal Brief, pursuant to the Notice of Appeal filed October 28, 2004, is an appeal from the rejection by the Examiner in the Office Action dated July 28, 2004.

REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

International Business Machines, Inc. is the real party in interest.

RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

None.

STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 29-32 are currently pending. Appellants' cancellation of claims 33-40 was entered for purposes of Appeal. Claims 29-32 have been rejected. This Brief is in support of an

09/444,254

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appeal from the rejection of claims 29-32.

STATUS OF AMENDMENTS

There are no Amendments which have not been entered.

SUMMARY OF INVENTION

The present invention discloses a program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a machine to perform method steps for coordinating a project for designing, implementing, and using a general procurement and accounts payable (GP/AP) system for a customer. See specification, page 6, lines 5-14; page 8, lines 8-18; page 68, lines 2-9.

A playbook database is created and maintained, wherein the playbook database comprises a plurality of templates of information relating to the designing, implementing, and using the GP/AP system, and wherein the plurality of templates are particularized for the customer. See specification, page 8, line 13 - page 9, line 11; page 19, lines 21-24.

A playbook summary view is generated from the playbook database and may be displayed. The playbook summary view comprise a folders and views section, a task title display and selection area, a summary task creation button, and a detailed task creation button. The folders and views section, the task title display and selection area, the summary task creation button, and the detailed task creation button visually appear together in a single contiguous display area within the playbook summary view. The folders and views section including category buttons relating to categories of tasks associated with designing, implementing, and

using the GP/AP system. The title display and selection area adapted to include buttons for selecting tasks pertinent to said categories of tasks. The buttons for selecting tasks identify the tasks which may be so selected. The buttons for selecting tasks are adapted to be displayed in the task title display and selection area in response to a selection of a button of the category buttons. See FIG. 4 and specification, page 12, line 9 - page 13, line 3.

A summary task template of the plurality of templates may be generated and displayed for a selected first task of the tasks identified in the task title display and selection area. The summary task template may be generated and displayed in response to a selection of the summary task creation button. The summary task template may include summary parameters of the selected first task. The generated summary task template may be derived from the playbook database. See FIG. 5; TABLE 1 on pages 14-16; TABLE 2 on pages 16-17; specification, page 13, line 4 - page 14, line 4 and page 19, lines 19-21.

A detailed task template of the plurality of templates may be generated and displayed for a selected second task of the tasks identified in the task title display and selection area. The detailed task template may be generated and displayed in response to a selection of the detailed task creation button. The detailed task template may include detailed parameters of the selected second task. The generated detailed task template may be derived from the playbook database. See FIG. 6; TABLE 3 on pages 18-19; specification, page 14, lines 5-7 and page 19, lines 19-21.

Communication may be enabled between team members of a team and the playbook database via a server coupled to the playbook database and an intranet coupled to both the server and the team members. The team members having responsibility for said designing and implementing of said GP/AP system. See FIG. 1 and specification, page 8, line 13 - page 9, line

11.

A template of the plurality of templates may include or may be linked to an item selected from the group consisting of a document, an instruction, a flow chart, a sample questionnaire, a report model, and a checklist, wherein the item is pertinent to guiding, coordinating and documenting work of a team member of the team. See and specification, page 52, line 18 - page 53, line 3.

Generating and displaying the playbook summary view, generating and displaying the summary task template, and generating and displaying the detailed task template are utilized during performing at least one of: designing the GP/AP system; implementing the GP/AP system; using the GP/AP system; optimizing a solution for out-sourcing procurement of goods and services under the GP/AP system; training service providers of services to the customer; managing said service providers to assure quality of service from the service providers; managing a project relating to the GP/AP system; and optimizing the GP/AP system such that the optimized GP/AP system is characterized by lower costs, a paperless process, and more comprehensive service with a shorter cycle time. See and specification, page 5, line 12 - page 6, line 3; page 11, lines 18-2 .

ISSUES

1. Whether claim 32 is unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.
2. Whether claims 29-32 are unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) unpatentable over Gundewar et al. (US Patent 6,381,610) in view of Oka (US Patent 5,537,591), Examiner's Official Notice, and Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary.

GROUPING OF CLAIMS

The claims are grouped as shown in Table 1.

Table 1

Group	Issue	Claims
1	1	32
2	2	29-32

The claims of Group 2 do not stand and fall together with the claim of Group 1, because the claims of Group 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), whereas the claim of Group 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

In Group 2, claims 30 and 31 stand and fall together.

In Group 2, claims 30 and 31 do not stand and fall together with claim 29, because claims 30 and 31 requires resolving the following question not present in claim 29: whether Gundewar in view of Oka, Examiner's Official Notice, and Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary teaches or suggests: "enabling communication between team members of a team and the playbook database via a server coupled to the playbook database and an intranet coupled to both the server and the team members, said team members having responsibility for said designing and implementing of said GP/AP system".

In Group 2, claim 32 does not stand and fall together with the claims 29-31, because claim 32 requires resolving the following question not present in claims 29-31: whether Gundewar in view of Oka, Examiner's Official Notice, and Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary

teaches or suggests: “wherein said generating and displaying the playbook summary view, said generating and displaying the summary task template, and said generating and displaying the detailed task template are utilized during performing at least one of: designing the GP/AP system; implementing the GP/AP system; using the GP/AP system; optimizing a solution for out-sourcing procurement of goods and services under the GP/AP system; training service providers of services to the customer; managing said service providers to assure quality of service from said service providers; managing a project relating to the GP/AP system; and optimizing the GP/AP system, said optimized GP/AP system being characterized by lower costs, a paperless process, and more comprehensive service with a shorter cycle time”.

ARGUMENT

Issue 1

CLAIM 32 IS NOT UNPATENTABLE UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112, SECOND PARAGRAPH.

The Examiner rejected claims 32 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The Examiner argues that “it is unclear what the difference is between "implementing" and "using" of the GP/AP system.”

In response to the Examiner’s argument, Appellants note that page 11, lines 18-23 of the specification recites: “Referring to Figure 3, in accordance with the preferred embodiment of the method of the invention, assessment 101, preparation 102, development 103, deployment 104 and support 105 stages are executed to design, **implement, and use a general procurement and accounts payable (GP/AP) system** for a customer” (emphasis added). The preceding quote from the specification, which states that the present invention both implements and uses the GP/AP system, conveys a clear intent to differentiate the meaning of “implement” from the meaning of “use”.

Furthermore, dictionaries provide different definitions of “implement” and “use” as next explained.

Webster’s New Collegiate Dictionary (2d ed. 1958) defines “implement” in verb form as follows: “to accomplish; fulfill; complete; ...; give practical effect to and insure of actual fulfillment by concrete measures ...” (id. at 417). In contrast, Webster’s New Collegiate Dictionary (2d ed. 1958) defines “use” in verb form as follows: “to make use of, ...; to avail

oneself of; to employ; ..." (id. at 937) The American Heritage Dictionary (2d ed. 1985) defines "implement" in verb form as follows: "to put into practical effect; carry out" (id. at 646). In contrast, The American Heritage Dictionary (2d ed. 1985) defines "use" in verb form as follows: "to bring or put into service; employ ..." (id. at 1331).

Appellants respectfully contend that the preceding dictionary definitions sufficiently distinguish between "implementing" and "using".

Based on the preceding arguments, Appellants respectfully maintain that claim 32 is not unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

Issue 2

CLAIMS 29-32 ARE NOT UNPATENTABLE UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a) OVER GUNDEWAR ET AL. (US PATENT 6,381,610) IN VIEW OF OKA (US PATENT 5,537,591), EXAMINER’S OFFICIAL NOTICE, AND MICROSOFT PRESS COMPUTER DICTIONARY.

The Examiner rejected claims 29-32 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Gundewar et al. (US Patent 6,381,610) in view of Oka (US Patent 5,537,591), Examiner’s Official Notice, and Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary.

Claim 29

Appellants present three arguments as to why claim 29 is not unpatentable over Gundewar in view of Oka, Examiner’s Official Notice, and Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary.

Claim 29: First Argument

A first argument as to why claim 29 is not unpatentable over Gundewar in view of Oka, Examiner’s Official Notice, and Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary, because Gundewar in view of Oka, Examiner’s Official Notice, and Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary does not teach or suggest the feature: “wherein said folders and views section, said task title display and selection area, said summary task creation button, and said detailed task creation button visually appear together **in a single contiguous display area** within said playbook summary view” (emphasis added).

The Examiner admits: “Gundewar ... is silent regarding ... where the folders and views section, task title display and selection area, summary task creation button and the detailed task

creation button visually appear together in a single contiguous display area.”

The Examiner argues: “Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary discloses that it is known in the art of computer graphical interfaces to provide a windowing environment where the screen is divided into several windows **each with its own boundaries** and can contain different information to provide users a multitasking interface to view different documents at the same time” (emphasis added).

In response, Appellants respectfully contend that windows in a windowing environment do not satisfy the feature of “appearing together **in a single contiguous display area** within said playbook summary view” as required by claim 29. As the Examiner admits, “the screen is divided into several windows **each with its own boundaries**” (emphasis added). Since each window (with its own boundaries) is distinct from any other window (with its own boundaries) with respect to location on the screen and content within the window, Appellants respectfully contend that Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary does not disclose the preceding “**single contiguous display area**” feature of claim 29.

Additionally, Appellants respectfully contend that the Examiner’s argument for modifying Gundewar by the alleged teaching of Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary is not persuasive. The Examiner argues: “It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the folders and views section, task title display and selection area, summary task creation button and the detailed task creation button of the program storage device of Gundewar et al.; Oka and Examiner's Official Notice, as modified above, on one divided screen of a windowing environment as taught by Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary, in order provide users a multitasking interface to view these different

documents at the same time on a screen.”

In response, Appellants note that the Examiner is arguing for a “divided screen” instead of for a “single contiguous display “ as required by claim 29.

In addition, the Examiner has not supplied a legally persuasive argument as to why a person of ordinary skill in the art would modify Gundewar by the alleged teaching of Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary in relation to claim 29. In particular, established case law requires that the prior art must contain some suggestion or incentive that would have motivated a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify a reference or to combine references. See *Karsten Mfg. Corp. V. Cleveland Gulf Co.*, 242 F.3d 1376, 58 U.S.P.Q.2d 1286, 1293 (Fed. Cir. 2001) (“In holding an invention obvious in view of a combination of references, there must be some suggestion, motivation, or teaching **in the prior art** that would have led a person of ordinary skill in the art to select the references and combine them in a way that would produce the claimed invention”). See also *In re Gordon*, 733 F.2d 900, 902, 221 U.S.P.Q. 1125, 1127 (Fed. Cir. 1984 (“The mere fact that the prior art could be so modified would not have made the motivation obvious **unless the prior art suggested the desirability of the modification.**”).

The Examiner’s citation of Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary does not provide motivation for modifying Gundewar to display the folders and views section, the task title display and selection area, the summary task creation button, and the detailed task creation button visually together in a single contiguous display area or in windows of a divided screen of a windowing environment. Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary merely discloses that “the screen can be divided into several windows, each of which has its own boundaries and can contain a different document.” Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary does not provide any suggestion as

to the types of content that should be displayed visually together in different windows of a divided screen. Hence, the Examiner appears to be citing Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary for the incorrect proposition that it is obvious to display visually together any arbitrary two documents in different windows of a divided screen, regardless of the content of the two documents.

Appellants contend that Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary merely describes the windowing capability and most certainly does not provide motivation for displaying visually together any arbitrary two documents in different windows of a divided screen, regardless of the content of the two documents. Moreover, The Examiner's argument (i.e., to "provide users a multitasking interface to view these different documents at the same time on a screen") does not even address placement of the folders and views section, the task title display and selection area, the summary task creation button, and the detailed task creation button visually together in windows of a divided screen of a windowing environment. Therefore, the Examiner's argument for modifying Gundewar by the alleged teachings of Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary to specifically display the folders and views section, the task title display and selection area, the summary task creation button, and the detailed task creation button visually together in windows of a divided screen of a windowing environment is not persuasive.

Importantly, the Examiner has not cited any prior art that provides motivation for modifying Gundewar to specifically display the folders and views section, the task title display and selection area, the summary task creation button, and the detailed task creation button visually together in a single contiguous display area or in windows of a divided screen of a windowing environment. Therefore, the Examiner has failed to establish a *prima facie* case of

obviousness in relation to claim 29.

Moreover, the Examiner has not even addressed the “within said playbook summary view” aspect of the feature: “wherein said folders and views section, said task title display and selection area, said summary task creation button, and said detailed task creation button visually appear together in a single contiguous display area **within said playbook summary view**” (emphasis added)”. In fact, the Examiner has not even alleged that Gundewar in view of Oka, Examiner’s Official Notice, and Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary, because Gundewar in view of Oka, Examiner’s Official Notice, and Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary does not teach or suggest the feature: “wherein said folders and views section, said task title display and selection area, said summary task creation button, and said detailed task creation button visually appear together in a single contiguous display area **within said playbook summary view**” (emphasis added). By totally ignoring the “within said playbook summary view” aspect of the preceding feature of claim 29, the Examiner has failed to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness in relation to claim 29.

Based on the preceding first argument, Appellants maintain that claim 29 is not unpatentable over Gundewar in view of Oka, Examiner’s Official Notice, and Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary.

Claim 29: Second Argument

A second argument as to why claim 29 is not unpatentable over Gundewar in view of Oka, Examiner’s Official Notice, and Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary, because Gundewar

in view of Oka, Examiner's Official Notice, and Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary does not teach or suggest the feature: "designing, implementing, and using a **general procurement and accounts payable (GP/AP) system**" (emphasis added).

The Examiner admits: "Gundewar ... is silent regarding the system being used for a GP/AP system".

The Examiner argues: "Oka discloses in the "Summary of the Invention" in column 1, that it is known in the art to provide programming instruction to coordinate the design, implementation and use of an accounting system in order to coordinate the development of an accounting system. See details also under the "Description of the Related Art" in column 1. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the program storage device of Gundewar et al. for use on the development of an accounting system as taught by Oka, in order to coordinate the design, implementation and use of an accounting system."

In response, Appellants respectfully contend that the Examiner's analysis of Oka is erroneous and is not applicable to modifying Gundewar. In particular, there is no disclosure anywhere in Oka that "it is known in the art to provide programming instruction to coordinate the design, implementation and use of an accounting system in order to coordinate the development of an accounting system." Appellants note that the only mention of "accounting" in the "Background of the Invention and "Summary of the Invention" section of Oka (referred to *supra* for support by the Examiner) is the following recitation in col. 1, lines 52-56: "It is an object of the present invention to provide an apparatus, which can automatically form a system diagram representing a summary of the entire system associated with various data processing operations

such as **accounting** processing.” (emphasis added). Appellants maintain that the preceding quote from Oka, col. 1, lines 52-56 most certainly does not disclose that “it is known in the art to provide programming instruction to coordinate the design, implementation and use of an accounting system in order to coordinate the development of an accounting system” as alleged by the Examiner. Since Oka does not disclose what the Examiner alleges, Appellant maintains that the Examiner’s modification of Gundewar by the alleged teaching of Oka is not persuasive.

In addition, Appellants maintain that the Examiner’s argument is conclusory based on circular reasoning. In effect, the Examiner is arguing that it is obvious to incorporate “designing, implementing, and using a general procurement and accounts payable (GP/AP) system” into Gundewar “in order to coordinate the design, implementation and use of an accounting system”.

Moreover, irrespective of what Oka discloses about an accounting system generically, Oka does not disclose anything specifically about a general procurement and accounts payable (GP/AP) system and therefore most certainly does not disclose the feature: “designing, implementing, and using **a general procurement and accounts payable (GP/AP) system**” of claim 29.

Based on the preceding second argument, Appellants maintain that claim 29 is not unpatentable over Gundewar in view of Oka, Examiner’s Official Notice, and Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary.

Claim 29:Third Argument

A third argument as to why claim 29 is not unpatentable over Gundewar in view of Oka, Examiner’s Official Notice, and Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary, because Gundewar in

view of Oka, Examiner's Official Notice, and Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary does not teach or suggest the feature: "said playbook database comprising a plurality of templates of information relating to said designing, implementing, and **using** said GP/AP system" (emphasis added).

Appellants contend that Gundewar's disclosure is restricted to templates for "planning" aspects of a project. Gundewar does not teach or suggest templates for "**using**" the system (i.e., the GP/AP system allegedly generated by the project). All of the templates discussed and disclosed by Gundewar relate to project planning, and none of the templates discussed and disclosed by Gundewar relate to "**using**" the system generated by the project.

Appellants note that in Gundewar's abstract, preamble of independent claim 1 and 11, and the Summary of the Invention (in the three aspects of the invention) describes Gundewar's invention as "a method for automated project **planning**" (emphasis added). The Brief Description of the Drawings in Gundewar describes the drawings as pertaining to "automated project **planning** tasks" (emphasis added). The description of the system 10 of FIG. 1 in col. 4, lines 14-15 states: "In general, system 10 allows a user to complete project **planning** tasks and procedures ..." (emphasis added).

In addition, the description of the flow chart of FIG. 4 in Gundewar, col. 8, lines 13-15 for the method of Gundewar's invention states: "In FIG. 4, an embodiment of a flowchart of a method for automating project **planning** tasks and procedures according to the present invention is shown" (emphasis added). Appellants contend that no step in FIG. 4 for Gundewar's method is directed to "**using**" the system generated by the project.

Moreover, the Examiner has not presented any analysis to support the Examiner's

contention that Gundewar teaches “**using**” the GP/AP system. Therefore, the Examiner has failed to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness in relation to claim 29.

Based on the preceding third argument, Appellants maintain that claim 29 is not unpatentable over Gundewar in view of Oka, Examiner’s Official Notice, and Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary.

Claim 30

Since claim 30 depends from claim 29, which Appellants have argued *supra* to not be unpatentable over Gundewar in view of Oka, Examiner’s Official Notice, and Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), Appellants maintain that claim 30 is likewise not unpatentable over Gundewar in view of Oka, Examiner’s Official Notice, and Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

In addition, Appellants contend that Gundewar in view of Oka, Examiner’s Official Notice, and Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary does not teach or suggest the feature: “enabling communication between team members of a team and the playbook database via a server coupled to the playbook database and an intranet coupled to both the server and the team members, said team members having responsibility for said designing and implementing of said GP/AP system.”

The Examiner argues that “team member usage of the system is disclosed in column 7, line 38 and templates are shown to be linked to all types of documents, instructions, flow charts, etc... including guidelines, templates, and sample templates as shown in figure 3.”

In response, Appellants contend that the preceding argument by the Examiner is not persuasive.

A first reason why the preceding argument by the Examiner is not persuasive is that Gundewar, col. 7, line 38 discloses only that templates may be filled out online by team members, which is not a disclosure of: “said team members having responsibility for said designing and implementing of said GP/AP system”.

A second reason why the preceding argument by the Examiner is not persuasive is that the preceding argument by the Examiner does not demonstrate that Gundewar discloses: “enabling communication between team members of a team and the playbook database via a server coupled to the playbook database and an intranet coupled to both the server and the team members”.

Accordingly, the Examiner has failed to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness in relation to claim 30.

Claim 31

Since claim 31 depends from claim 30, which Appellants have argued *supra* to not be unpatentable over Gundewar in view of Oka, Examiner’s Official Notice, and Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), Appellants maintain that claim 31 is likewise not unpatentable over Gundewar in view of Oka, Examiner’s Official Notice, and Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

Claim 32

Since claim 32 depends from claim 29, which Appellants have argued *supra* to not be unpatentable over Gundewar in view of Oka, Examiner's Official Notice, and Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), Appellants maintain that claim 32 is likewise not unpatentable over Gundewar in view of Oka, Examiner's Official Notice, and Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

In addition, Appellants contend that Gundewar in view of Oka, Examiner's Official Notice, and Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary does not teach or suggest the feature: "wherein said generating and displaying the playbook summary view, said generating and displaying the summary task template, and said generating and displaying the detailed task template are utilized during performing at least one of designing the GP/AP system; implementing the GP/AP system; using the GP/AP system; optimizing a solution for out-sourcing procurement of goods and services under the GP/AP system; training service providers of services to the customer; managing said service providers to assure quality of service from said service providers; managing a project relating to the GP/AP system; and optimizing the GP/AP system, said optimized GP/AP system being characterized by lower costs, a paperless process, and more comprehensive service with a shorter cycle time."

Appellants note that the Examiner has not provided any argument to support the rejection of claim 32 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). Therefore, the Examiner has failed to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness in relation to claim 32.

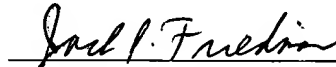
SUMMARY

In summary, Appellants respectfully request:

reversal of the rejection of claim 32 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph; and

reversal of the rejection of claims 29-32 as allegedly being unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Gundewar et al. in view of Oka (US Patent 5,537,591), Examiner's Official Notice, and Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary.

Respectfully submitted,



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**For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PROJECT PREPARING A PROCUREMENT AND
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE SYSTEM**

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APPENDIX - CLAIMS ON APPEAL

1-28. (Canceled)

29. A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a machine to perform method steps for coordinating a project for designing, implementing, and using a general procurement and accounts payable (GP/AP) system for a customer, said method steps comprising:

creating and maintaining a playbook database, said playbook database comprising a plurality of templates of information relating to said designing, implementing, and using said GP/AP system, said plurality of templates being particularized for the customer;

generating a playbook summary view from said playbook database;

displaying said playbook summary view, said playbook summary view comprising a folders and views section, a task title display and selection area, a summary task creation button, and a detailed task creation button, wherein said folders and views section, said task title display

and selection area, said summary task creation button, and said detailed task creation button visually appear together in a single contiguous display area within said playbook summary view;

said folders and views section including category buttons relating to categories of tasks associated with said designing, implementing, and using said GP/AP system,

said task title display and selection area adapted to include buttons for selecting tasks pertinent to said categories of tasks,

said buttons for selecting tasks identifying said tasks which may be so selected,

said buttons for selecting tasks adapted to be displayed in said task title display and selection area in response to a selection of a button of the category buttons;

generating and displaying a summary task template of the plurality of templates for a selected first task of the tasks identified in the task title display and selection area, said summary task template being generated and displayed in response to a selection of the summary task creation button, said summary task template including summary parameters of the selected first task, said generated summary task template being derived from said playbook database; and

generating and displaying a detailed task template of the plurality of templates for a selected second task of the tasks identified in the task title display and selection area, said detailed task template being generated and displayed in response to a selection of the detailed task creation button, said detailed task template including detailed parameters of the selected second task, said generated detailed task template being derived from said playbook database.

30. The program storage device of claim 29, wherein the method further comprises enabling communication between team members of a team and the playbook database via a server coupled

to the playbook database and an intranet coupled to both the server and the team members, said team members having responsibility for said designing and implementing of said GP/AP system.

31. The program storage device of claim 30, wherein a template of the plurality of templates includes or is linked to an item selected from the group consisting of a document, an instruction, a flow chart, a sample questionnaire, a report model, and a checklist, said item being pertinent to guiding, coordinating and documenting work of a team member of the team.

32. (Previously presented) The program storage device of claim 29, wherein said generating and displaying the playbook summary view, said generating and displaying the summary task template, and said generating and displaying the detailed task template are utilized during performing at least one of:

- designing the GP/AP system;

- implementing the GP/AP system;

- using the GP/AP system;

- optimizing a solution for out-sourcing procurement of goods and services under the GP/AP system;

- training service providers of services to the customer;

- managing said service providers to assure quality of service from said service providers;

- managing a project relating to the GP/AP system; and

- optimizing the GP/AP system, said optimized GP/AP system being characterized by lower costs, a paperless process, and more comprehensive service with a shorter cycle time.

33-40. (Canceled)